

## PENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference  WHI 200216 PCT	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No.  PCT / EP 03 / 06864	International filing date (day/month/year)  27/06/2003	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)  01/07/2002
Applicant  WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

contained in the international application in written form.

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2.  Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3.  Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

as suggested by the applicant.

because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

None of the figures.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.  
PCT/EP 03/06864

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 F25D23/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 F25D G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 633 420 A (GETTERS SPA) 11 January 1995 (1995-01-11) column 8, line 4 - line 22; figure 2 ---	1,6
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 008, no. 105 (P-274), 17 May 1984 (1984-05-17) & JP 59 015845 A (TOYOU SANSO KK), 26 January 1984 (1984-01-26) abstract ---	1,6
A	US 5 038 304 A (BONNE ULRICH) 6 August 1991 (1991-08-06) column 3, line 15 -column 5, line 15 column 8, line 53 - line 60; figures 1,12 --- -/--	1,5,6

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 November 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

03/12/2003

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP 03/06864

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 622 430 A (PLETKA HANS D ET AL) 22 April 1997 (1997-04-22) column 7, line 4 -column 8, line 6; figure 1 ---	1,6
A	FR 1 454 539 A (RECH S SCIENT ET IND E R S I E) 11 February 1966 (1966-02-11) page 1, column 2, line 17 -page 3, column 2, line 3; figure 1 ---	1,6
A	DE 100 06 878 A (SCHOLZ FLORIAN) 6 September 2001 (2001-09-06) column 4, line 20 -column 5, line 54; figures 1,2 -----	1,6

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International Application No  
PCT/EP 03/06864

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 0633420	A 11-01-1995	IT AT CA CN DE DE EP ES JP RU US	1264692 B1 151157 T 2126815 A1 1103151 A ,B 69309453 D1 69309453 T2 0633420 A2 2101281 T3 7145778 A 2120686 C1 5625742 A		04-10-1996 15-04-1997 09-01-1995 31-05-1995 07-05-1997 10-07-1997 11-01-1995 01-07-1997 06-06-1995 20-10-1998 29-04-1997
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US 5038304	A 06-08-1991	DK EP JP	312489 A 0348243 A2 3094150 A		25-12-1989 27-12-1989 18-04-1991
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DE 10006878	A 06-09-2001	DE WO EP JP US	10006878 A1 0161118 A1 1255898 A1 2003529000 T 2003046894 A1		06-09-2001 23-08-2001 13-11-2002 30-09-2003 13-03-2003